



Lateef Ajani Olaniyan

May 22, 2026

Lateef Ajani Olaniyan, born in 1958, went home to be with the Lord on May 22nd 2026. He is survived by his three children: Michael Olaniyan, Hakeem Olaniyan, and Amirah Olaniyan—whom he loved deeply and was immensely proud of.

Lateef was born in Omu-Aran, Nigeria, to Oyepuju and Jimoh Olaniyan. From an early age, he demonstrated a gift for science and a determination to pursue educational opportunities that would eventually take him across the world.

That journey began in 1981, when he immigrated from Nigeria to California in pursuit of higher education. He earned an Associate Degree from the College of the Redwoods before continuing his academic journey at Idaho State University, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. He later earned his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Florida.

His educational achievements laid the foundation for a distinguished 37-year career in pharmacy, including 16 years as the owner and operator of Southgate Pharmacy in Moses Lake. Lateef was known for his unwavering work ethic, his optimistic world view and a joyous smile that brightened every interaction, whether with a longtime friend or a first-time patient. He took the time to understand people's stories and celebrate their milestones – building lasting relationships far beyond the pharmacy window. Although Lateef was dedicated to his profession, his most cherished role was that of a father and provider. He welcomed his first son Michael in 1989 with Kathie, then later his

son Hakeem in 1998 and daughter Amirah in 2004, with his wife Mariam. He loved being an active presence in his children's lives, whether attending basketball games, cheerleading events, or family vacations. The same sense of responsibility that defined him as a father, also made him a source of guidance and opportunity for his loving siblings in Nigeria. Lateef never forgot where he came from. Nigeria was his homeland and he remained deeply committed to giving back to the country that shaped him. In 2008, he founded the Moses Lake Medical Team, a non-profit that would go on to treat nearly 100,000 patients and provide surgery for more than 1,000 people – all free of charge. Through the team's efforts, communities that had long been overlooked were seen as individuals worthy of care, dignity, and compassion. In recognition of his service, Lateef was honored as the "Most Outstanding Kwara State Indigene in the World." True to his humble nature, he accepted the award by giving credit to his fellow diaspora colleagues and to God, believing the work was always greater than any one person.

Lateef will be remembered for the way he cared for people. He had a gift for making others feel seen, valued, and supported. He leaves behind a legacy of generosity that will forever live through the many people he touched. While we mourn his passing, we also celebrate a life well lived. He will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered.

Cemetery Details

Guarding Angels Cemetery

2595 Road L N.E.
Moses Lake, WA 98837
(509) 765-7848

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN 5. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (PT)

Kayser's Chapel of Memories
831 S. Pioneer Way
Moses Lake, WA

Funeral

JUN 6. 11:00 AM (PT)

Generations Assemblies of God
431 E Brown Ave
Moses Lake, WA

Reception

JUN 6. 3:00 PM.

Grant County Fair Grounds